

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the present amendments and comments herein.

Claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form and includes all of the limitations of claims 1 and 5 and recites an air vent for ventilation installations in vehicles comprising a housing which defines an air outlet channel, and a manual operating element formed by a partial sphere to adjust direction and flow rate of air delivered by the vent said operating element being mounted in the housing to be rotatable about two axes perpendicular to each other wherein the operating element is mounted in the housing by means of a cross-shaped journal structure. Further, claim 5 has been amended to delete the language "control member." Accordingly, claim 5 is allowable. Claims 6-8 have also been amended to delete the language "control member." Claims 6-8 are dependent directly or indirectly from claim 5 and are also allowable.

New claim 9 has been added by this amendment. It is respectfully requested that claim 9 is patentable over the art of record, taken individually or in combination. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests allowance of claim 9.

Claim 9 recites an air vent for ventilation installations in vehicles comprising a housing which defines an air outlet channel and a manual operating element, said operating element being formed by a partial sphere, said partial sphere being mounted in said housing to be rotatable about a first axis and about a second axis and said first and second axes being

perpendicular to each other, said air vent further comprising a first set of blades being pivotally mounted in said air outlet channel for adjusting direction of air delivered by said air vent and being coupled with each other for joint motion, a second set of blades being pivotally mounted in said air outlet channel for adjusting direction of air delivered by said air vent and being coupled with each other for joint motion, and a flap being pivotally mounted in said air outlet channel between an open position and a closure position to adjust the flow rate of air delivered by said air vent, a rotation of said partial sphere about said first axis pivoting said first set of blades and a rotation of said partial sphere about said second axis pivoting both said second set of blades and said flap.

U.S. 6,533,655 to Demerath, et al. ("Demerath") does not disclose rotation of an operating element about two axes being perpendicular to each other that cause changes to both the direction and the flow rate of air delivered by an air vent as recited in claim 9. Demerath does not disclose an operating element that rotates about two axes being perpendicular to each other. Thus Demerath does not disclose that the rotation of the operating element about the second axis pivots both the second set of blades and the flap as recited in claim 9.

Additionally, U.S. 2,969,725 to Grace, et al. ("Grace") does not disclose a flap being pivotally mounted in an air outlet channel to adjust the flow rate of air delivered by an air vent as recited in claim 9. Grace does not disclose a flap being pivotally mounted. Thus, Grace does not disclose a flap

being pivotally mounted to adjust the flow rate of air delivered by an air vent as recited in claim 9. Further, since neither Demerath nor Grace discloses the invention of claim 9, a combination of the references does not make claim 9 obvious.

New claim 10 recites an actuating arm connected with an operating element and adapted to pivot about a first axis and a coupling link connecting a first set of blades with said actuating arm. Claim 10 depends from claim 9 and is allowable for substantially the same reasons as claim 9.

New claim 11 recites a cam disk mounted in a housing to rotate about a second axis, said cam disk being coupled with an operating element for joint rotation and with a second set of blades.


Claim 11 depends from claim 10 and is allowable for substantially the same reasons as claim 10. Additionally, neither Demerath nor Grace disclose a cam disk being coupled with an operating element for joint rotation and a second set of blades as recited in claim 11. Neither Demerath nor Grace disclose a cam disk. Thus, neither reference discloses that the cam disk is coupled with an operating element and a second set of blades as recited in claim 11. Further since neither reference discloses the invention of claim 11, a combination of the references does not make claim 11 obvious.

New Claim 12 recites a flap being pivotally mounted in an

Claim 12 depends from claim 11 and is allowable for substantially the same reasons as claim 11. Additionally, neither Demerath nor Grace disclose a flap being pivotally mounted in an air outlet and being coupled to a pivotal lever mounted in a housing, said pivotal lever being coupled to a cam disk, as recited in claim 12. As stated above with respect to claim 11, neither Demerath nor Grace disclose a cam disk. Thus, neither Demerath nor Grace disclose that the cam disk is coupled to a pivotal lever coupled to a flap as recited in claim 12. Further since neither reference discloses the invention of claim 12, a combination of the references does not make claim 12 obvious.

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Respectfully submitted,


Thomas L. Tarolli
Reg. No. 20,177

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL,
& TUMMINO L.L.P.
526 Superior Avenue, Suite 1111
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1400
Phone: (216) 621-2234
Fax: (216) 621-4072
Customer No.: 26,294